

ART IN PUBLIC PLACES COMMISSION

Agenda for the Annual Retreat

January 9, 2021

Video Conference Meeting

I. Call to Order, January 9, 2020

a. Meeting began at 9:03 am

Attendance:

Present – Chair Rick Forsman, Vice-Chair Mary Mollicone, Commissioners: Amy Cheslin, Vanessa Frazier, Jesse Jimenez, Celina Kaur, Margaret Norwood, Brittany Pirtle, Ana Valles

Guests – None

AIPP Staff – Roberta Bloom, Tony Nguyen

b. Vanessa Frazier volunteers to take notes and prepare brief report to Council

II. Questions or additional thought from January 6 discussion

This is important work we do and the role we play in our community and society is essential. Look at water bill this month it includes an article “Public Art Brightening the Winter Landscape.”

III. Review of Strategic Plan

5 Year update includes 2020. Updated city staff and commissioners. The strategic plan was started with the initiative to be an internal document for commissioners’ decisions, requests, project tracking and calendars to be documented. The goals are still relevant. As we talk of specific projects we may need to revisit our objectives and see if they are still feasible with ongoing changes to our environment. Our maintenance and conservation budget has been cut to \$40,000. Edit wording to Colfax Canvas. Commission needs to work on budgeting plans for 2021 and 2022 before May. Reminder that there is still plenty of opportunity for commissioners to bring up ideas for potential future projects.

IV. ACTION ITEM:

a. Consideration of pedestrian bridge budget allocation for public art

Roberta Bloom gives presentation of the pedestrian bridge project. Topic included: Background, location, current state of development and our set aside budget. Averages 320 feet long (for reference this is 100 feet longer than the RTD Florida Station bridge). \$150,000 had been previously earmarked for this project in 2021. Presentation included examples of public art bridge projects to display the different experiences and opportunities for incorporating art. After the presentation Roberta gives a timeline and suggest an invitational process, where a small group of artists will be invited to apply. Timeline is as follows: Mid-January 1st ASP meeting where the criteria for inclusion will be created, and an invitation will be sent to small group of selected artists, Mid-February ASP will review artist applications and select 3 finalists, Mid-March artists will present their proposals and ASP will select one artist, early in April this selection will be reviewed by AIPPC and begin down the approval process starting with the CAC. There is an urgency to begin this process. Mary proposes

applying the TBD \$100,000 to the bridge project. This would be committing the total the TBD funds for this year. Rick brings up a motion to allocate 250k for The Nine Mile Pedestrian Bridge and follow the project timeline presented by Roberta. Mary moves the motion and Jesse 2nds the motion. Mary Mollicone will be the lead commissioner and Ana and Jesse are backups.

V. Discuss draft full list of Commissioner responsibilities and involvement

These are required responsibilities.

VI. Discussion of how to make best use of our time in the coming year; which of these topics would commissioners like to explore as background for making decisions in the year ahead? In what order?

a. Examine and possibly adapt some 'best practices' of public art programs around the country
One comment from Roberta - National level discussion of honorarium for art professionals serving on panels. Mixed feelings - where would this money come from, where to draw the line when considering other working members sitting on the same panels

b. Examine major issues currently facing public art programs, such as funding, historic nature vs. social justice concerns, emergence of new art forms, etc.

No discussion

c. Learn about staff and budget reductions in other city depts. that impact the AIPP program 3
Invite Tracy Young to discuss budget and staffing reductions and the Highline Canal. These reductions could affect future projects to be considered

d. Discuss gathering a comprehensive list of city planning efforts and how to dovetail with these

Roberta suggests commission could reach out to the planning commission and ask for budget list – Vanessa volunteers to make the connection

e. Reconsider strategies for community outreach and communication

Appreciation is shared for Amy's contributions to AIPP's visibility

f. Provide input for 2022 budget request before May g. Review data on distribution of public art by ward

Not negotiable

VII. Potential Project Concepts:

a. Westerly Creek area

b. Request for a light installation in plaza at MLK library and Fox Theatre

Invite Helen Murray from The Fox to talk about light installation in early February for 15 minutes

c. Pedestrian underpass west of the Aurora Municipal Center

This is a challenging space because it is already built. There are already issues of graffiti.

Suggestions include possible opportunity for sculpture or mural

d. City Center Park Sculpture(s)

Could really benefit having a designated sculpture park as seen in other areas of CO

e. Potential Collaboration with city Water Department

No discussion

f. New collaboration with the business community

Rick suggests there may be new ideas coming from the business community now that we have some commissioners participating on boards

g. Other ideas

Invite Tracy Young to talk about the Highline Canal and PROS related projects during the February meeting for 15 minutes. Invite Andrea Amonick to talk about AURA during the March or April meeting.

VIII. Election of Officers for 2021

Rick Forsman is stepping down from position of Chair for the Commission. The Commission nominates Mary as Chair and Brittany as Vice Chair. Mary Mollicone transfers away from meeting responsibilities with Ward IV and BID. Ana will now be the new representative for Ward IV and Brittany is the new representative for BID meetings.

IX. Adjournment

Meeting adjourns 12:00pm

X. Next meeting: February 3, 2021

XI. AIPPC Ward and Contact Assignments

Ward I & City Manager & Deputy City Manager - Amy Cheslin

Ward II & Mayor & BID - Brittany Pirtle

Ward III - Vanessa Frazier and Margaret Norwood

Ward IV – Ana Valles

Ward V - Celina Kaur

Ward VI - Rick Forsman

At Large Dave Gruber and Curtis Gardner - Ana Valles

At Large Angela Lawson and Allison Hiltz - Jesse Jimenez



Rick Forsman, Chair



Roberta Bloom, Public Art

The mission of the Art in Public Places Program is to create great places that contribute to neighborhood development, economic vitality, and enrich and engage the community of Aurora.

